

## Department of Veterans Affairs

## § 19.31

### **§ 19.27 Adequacy of Notice of Disagreement questioned within the agency of original jurisdiction.**

If, within the agency of original jurisdiction, there is a question as to the adequacy of a Notice of Disagreement, the procedures for an administrative appeal must be followed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105, 7106)

### **§ 19.28 Determination that a Notice of Disagreement is inadequate protested by claimant or representative.**

Whether a Notice of Disagreement is adequate is an appealable issue. If the claimant or his or her representative protests an adverse determination made by the agency of original jurisdiction with respect to the adequacy of a Notice of Disagreement, the claimant will be furnished a Statement of the Case.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

### **§ 19.29 Statement of the Case.**

The Statement of the Case must be complete enough to allow the appellant to present written and/or oral arguments before the Board of Veterans' Appeals. It must contain:

(a) A summary of the evidence in the case relating to the issue or issues with which the appellant or representative has expressed disagreement;

(b) A summary of the applicable laws and regulations, with appropriate citations, and a discussion of how such laws and regulations affect the determination; and

(c) The determination of the agency of original jurisdiction on each issue and the reasons for each such determination with respect to which disagreement has been expressed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)(1))

### **§ 19.30 Furnishing the Statement of the Case and instructions for filing a Substantive Appeal.**

(a) *To whom the Statement of the Case is furnished.* The Statement of the Case will be forwarded to the appellant at the latest address of record and a separate copy provided to his or her representative (if any).

(b) *Information furnished with the Statement of the Case.* With the State-

ment of the Case, the appellant and the representative will be furnished information on the right to file, and time limit for filing, a Substantive Appeal; information on hearing and representation rights; and a VA Form 9, "Appeal to Board of Veterans' Appeals."

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

[57 FR 4104, Feb. 3, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 20449, May 7, 1996]

### **§ 19.31 Supplemental statement of the case.**

(a) *Purpose and limitations.* A "Supplemental Statement of the Case," so identified, is a document prepared by the agency of original jurisdiction to inform the appellant of any material changes in, or additions to, the information included in the Statement of the Case or any prior Supplemental Statement of the Case. In no case will a Supplemental Statement of the Case be used to announce decisions by the agency of original jurisdiction on issues not previously addressed in the Statement of the Case, or to respond to a notice of disagreement on newly appealed issues that were not addressed in the Statement of the Case. The agency of original jurisdiction will respond to notices of disagreement on newly appealed issues not addressed in the Statement of the Case using the procedures in §§ 19.29 and 19.30 of this part (relating to statements of the case).

(b) *When furnished.* The agency of original jurisdiction will furnish the appellant and his or her representative, if any, a Supplemental Statement of the Case if:

(1) The agency of original jurisdiction receives additional pertinent evidence after a Statement of the Case or the most recent Supplemental Statement of the Case has been issued and before the appeal is certified to the Board of Veterans' Appeals and the appellate record is transferred to the Board;

(2) A material defect in the Statement of the Case or a prior Supplemental statement of the Case is discovered; or

(3) For any other reason the Statement of the Case or a prior Supplemental Statement of the Case is inadequate.

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(c) *Pursuant to remand from the Board.* The agency of original jurisdiction will issue a Supplemental Statement of the Case if, pursuant to a remand by the Board, it develops the evidence or cures a procedural defect, unless:

(1) The only purpose of the remand is to assemble records previously considered by the agency of original jurisdiction and properly discussed in a prior Statement of the Case or Supplemental Statement of the Case; or

(2) The Board specifies in the remand that a Supplemental Statement of the Case is not required.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)).

[67 FR 3104, Jan. 23, 2002]

### **§ 19.32 Closing of appeal for failure to respond to Statement of the Case.**

The agency of original jurisdiction may close the appeal without notice to an appellant or his or her representative for failure to respond to a Statement of the Case within the period allowed. However, if a Substantive Appeal is subsequently received within the 1-year appeal period (60-day appeal period for simultaneously contested claims), the appeal will be considered to be reactivated.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105(d)(3))

### **§ 19.33 Timely filing of Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal questioned within the agency of original jurisdiction.**

If, within the agency of original jurisdiction, there is a question as to the timely filing of a Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal, the procedures for an administrative appeal must be followed.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105, 7106)

### **§ 19.34 Determination that Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal was not timely filed protested by claimant or representative.**

Whether a Notice of Disagreement or Substantive Appeal has been filed on time is an appealable issue. If the claimant or his or her representative protests an adverse determination made by the agency of original jurisdiction with respect to timely filing of the Notice of Disagreement or Sub-

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stantive Appeal, the claimant will be furnished a Statement of the Case.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

### **§ 19.35 Certification of appeals.**

Following receipt of a timely Substantive Appeal, the agency of original jurisdiction will certify the case to the Board of Veterans' Appeals. Certification is accomplished by the completion of VA Form 8, "Certification of Appeal." The certification is used for administrative purposes and does not serve to either confer or deprive the Board of Veterans' Appeals of jurisdiction over an issue.

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

[57 FR 4104, Feb. 3, 1992, as amended at 61 FR 20449, May 7, 1996; 66 FR 53339, Oct. 22, 2001]

### **§ 19.36 Notification of certification of appeal and transfer of appellate record.**

When an appeal is certified to the Board of Veterans' Appeals for appellate review and the appellate record is transferred to the Board, the appellant and his or her representative, if any, will be notified in writing of the certification and transfer and of the time limit for requesting a change in representation, for requesting a personal hearing, and for submitting additional evidence described in Rule of Practice 1304 (§ 20.1304 of this chapter).

(Authority: 38 U.S.C. 7105)

### **§ 19.37 Consideration of additional evidence received by the agency of original jurisdiction after an appeal has been initiated.**

(a) *Evidence received prior to transfer of records to Board of Veterans' Appeals.* Evidence received by the agency of original jurisdiction prior to transfer of the records to the Board of Veterans' Appeals after an appeal has been initiated (including evidence received after certification has been completed) will be referred to the appropriate rating or authorization activity for review and disposition. If the Statement of the Case and any prior Supplemental Statements of the Case were prepared before the receipt of the additional evidence, a Supplemental Statement of the Case will be furnished to the appellant and his or her representative as